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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,745	04/30/2001	Yoshiteru Chiba	S-0711	9143

466 7590 06/30/2004

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 ARLINGTON, VA 22202

EXAMINER

BARQADLE, YASIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/843,745

Applicant(s)

CHIBA, YOSHITERU

Examiner

Yasin M Barqadle

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-14 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 2 recites the limitation "a network connection device according to claim 1" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

3. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements are: a LAN card set to directly connect a line of the telephone (to what) when said computer is turned off. It is not clear as to what the line of the telephone is being connected to. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: ``a lurality'' in line 2. It should read ``a plurality''. Appropriate correction is required.

5. Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informalities: ``and said controller'' in line 4. This phrase is repeated twice. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent

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resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dinha U.S. Patent (6115372).

As per claim 1, Dinha teaches a multichannel network (fig. 2) for transmitting data of different types (voice, video and data) through respective channels (fig.2, 171, 180 and 202n) in a plurality of physical transmission media.

As per claim 2, a network connection device according to claim 1, wherein some of a plurality of channels are externally branched and output [fig. 2, shows plurality of channels such as 171, 180 and 202n externally branched].

As per claim 3, Dinha teaches a network connection (fig. 2) and switch device (node 300 & fig. 4) having functions of individually switching and connecting a plurality of channels [fig. 3, SPS base node 300 and fig. 4. see also col.8, lines 15-65].

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As per claim 4, Dinha teaches the device as discussed above, wherein the network connection and switch device is a HPB [fig. 3, SPS base node 300 and fig. 4].

As per claim 5, Dinha teaches a multichannel network having a plurality of terminal device (fig. 2 and fig. 3, terminals 305-316) comprising a computer and appliances (305-316) connected to the computer, wherein:

said computer and a server are connected to a cable storing lines for different channels respectively for different types of data [col. 8, lines 20-60 and col. 10, lines 32-62]; and

said computer and said appliances connected to said computer transmit and receive data to and from a destination through the line for different channels [col. 8, lines 20-60 and col. 10, lines 32-62].

As per claim 6, Dinha teaches network according to claim 5, wherein said appliance connected to said computer is a telephone [telephone 120].

As per claim 7, Dinha teaches network according to claim 5, wherein said appliance connected to said computer is a television camera [fig. 8, camera 820].

As per claim 8, Dinha teaches network according to claim 5, further comprising:

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a branch device transmitting data to said computer and said appliances connected to said computer [col. 7, lines 55 to col. 8, line 7 and col. 10, lines 32-62], wherein

said branch device transfers data to said computer and said appliances connected to said computer for each channel [col. 7, lines 55 to col. 8, line 7 and col. 10, lines 32-62].

As per claim 9, Dinh teaches network according to claim 8, wherein said branch device is provided in said computer [col. 7, lines 55 to col. 8, line 7 and col. 10, lines 32-62].

As per claim 10, Dinh teaches the network according to claim 5, wherein said computer comprises programs respectively for a device driver (device driver are inherent feature for devices to work), a controller (fig. 4), and an application (video and voice applications), and said device driver and said controller, and said controller and said application mutually exchange specified keywords, and start a control process when an initializing process is performed [communication protocols are exchange by communicating devices. col. 10, lines 32-62].

As per claim 11, Dinh teaches a network according to claim 5, wherein The network according to claim 5, further

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comprising a LAN card set to directly connect a line of the telephone when said computer is turned off [col. 7, lines 55 to col. 8, line 7].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

7. Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saxena et al U.S. Patent (6259449).

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As per claim 12, Saxena teaches a LAN card having a function of inputting telephone voice [col. 4, lines 46-53].

As per claim 13, Saxena teaches LAN card having a function of inputting a camera [col. 5, lines 33-45 and col. 6, lines 34-44].

As per claim 14, Saxena teaches LAN card having a function of including a voice line in a sound card [col. 4, lines 46-53 and col. 5, lines 1-30].

Conclusion

The prior made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Yasin Barqadle

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GLENTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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